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76

A DECLARATION,

Of the Beſieged Soldiers in the City of *Colcheſter*, and their reſolution concerning the ſurrendring of the ſaid City.

Alſo the planting two demi-Canon againſt it, and the battering down part of Saint Maries *Church.*

And how a Partie of the Lord Cepel's *Shavers iſſued forth of* Buttolphs-*gate, and ſet upon our Pioneers, and tooke ſome priſoners, and hewed one of our men to peeces with their Sythes.*

Moreover the taking of divers horſe from underneath the Walls, and the killing of one of their Commanders.

Together with a true Relation of the proceedings betwixt the Scots *and Major Generall* Lambert, *and the laſt news from* Portſmouth.

LONDON Printed,
An. Dom. 1648.

13

DECLARATION

Of the Besieged Soldiers in the City of Colchester, and their resolution concerning the surrendring of the said City.

LONDON, Printed, 1648.

The laſt news from Colcheſter, Yarmouth, Scarborough; *and other parts.*

WEE Are credibly informed from *Colcheſter*, that there hath beene little or no action, theſe three or foure dayes, the 29. of *July* a trumpeter came forth, who reporteth that the Towne is much ſtraitned for want of proviſions, yet ſaith the Souldiers are very cheerefull ſince they heard the Prince of *Wales* was at *Yarmouth*, and drinke his health in a cup of cold water, and a very good ſhift too, hoping ere long to have better drink.

The Councell of Warre agreed to ſhoot in papers with arrowes to undeceive the Souldiery. The Lord Generall hath ſent ſeverall ſummons to the Town, in one of which he offered, that all private Souldiers & perſons of that rank laying down armes, & engaging not to beare armes any more againſt the Parliament, ſhould have liberty and paſſes to go to their ſeverall homes, and there quietly to abide. The Officers and Gentlemen of qualitie, ſhould have liberty,

and paſſes to goe beyond the Seas with Equipage be fitting their qualities, engaging not to returne into this Kingdome without leave from the Parliament. And all perſons to have quarters, and bee free from plunder, or violence of the Souldier; this being rejected, and ſcornfully retorted by the Lords *Norwich*, *Capell*, and Sir *Charles Lucas*: The Generall yet offered to make good the ſame conditions to ſo many as ſhould truly accept thereof; except thoſe three perſons themſelves, which hath accordingly beene performed with advantage to all ſuch as have come off.

Hee hath lately ſummoned them again to ſurrender the Town, and the Officers to render themſelves to the mercy, and the reſt only to future obedience of the Parliament. This alſo hath beene rejected with ſcorne; nevertheleſſe underſtanding that the Lords, *Goring*, *Capell*, and Sir *Charles Lucas*, and ſome Officers of their Councell, have concealed theſe overtures both from the Souldiers and Townſmen, and from many of the Officers, and that they have given out, as if they had good conditions offered to themſelves, if they would render up the Souldiers, and perceiving that the Townſmen and Souldiers have beene deluded by them, and their chiefe Agents, with daily expectation of reliefe, while there is none at all towards them: The Generall is willing to make good the ſame conditions to ſo many as ſhall timely accept thereof, except the Lords, *Goring*, *Capell*, and Sir *Charles Lucas*. with the Lord *Loughborough*, Colonell *Farr*, Colonell *Lawrence*, and Captaine *Lynn*; and except all ſuch ſouldiers as have beene in the Army ſince the ſiege, and are gone into the Towne.

Our

Our forces alſo gave an Alarm to them in *Colcheſter*, the great Gunnes plaid round the Leaguer, and the foot with Volleys, in the mean time Colonell *Rainsborough* was acting his deſigne in cutting off a ſluce, to divert the water, and fiering the middle Mill, the firſt tooke good effect, but the ſecond little, the fire not burning above halfe a quarter of an houre, and then extinguiſht, the foot went up to the neck in water to ſtorme the Fort where the Mill was, effected it ſpeedily, with the loſſe of three men, and tenne wounded, beſides one drowned going over the River. The enemy drew down two or three ſmall parties of Horſe, who fac't but durſt not engage, the Souldiers had not time to bring away the priſoners in the Fort, and therefore put them all to the ſword. They within tooke the Alarm hot ſuppoſing a ſtorm, but when they found it otherwiſe, they fired but little, beating their Kettles in ſcorne, and afterwards their Drums in defiance of them.

Divers of the Beſiegers being buſied in making of a line through *Maudlin* ſtreete, ſome of the Lord *Capells* Regiment of Shavers ſallied out of *Buttolphs* Gate upon them, with Piſtolls and Sythes, and our workemen being gotten within Muſquet ſhot of the foreſaid gate, they immediately ſurpriſed three of them, one of which they hewed moſt fearfully with one of their Sythes, the reſt haſting to our guard, were ſuddenly reſcued, and there began a ſhort diſpute betweene them, but our forces fired ſo faſt upon them, that they forced them to retreate, and killed a Gentleman in Scarlet, who wee ſuppoſe to bee ſome eminent Commander.

The *Suffolk* ſide are a cloſing up their line, and a-

bout Tuesday will have finished it, which when they have performed, his Excellency may spare a considerable number of horse and foot, if there should bee a good occasion.

The two demi-Cannon which were lately sent down were mounted against St. *Maries* Church, and after a few shots, brought down a great part of the Steeple, and the Ordnance mounted therein, which falling upon the Leads, brought down most of it with them, in which the Ordnance is buried. A party of ours endeavoured to fetch in some of their horse, which grazed neere the Towne walls, But immediately there issued forth a party of theirs, betwixt whom there began some dispute, wherein was little or no hurt done, but our men retreating the besiegers had opportunity to remove their horse, at a farther distance, where they remaine with more security.

The Souldiers of this Garrison are very resolute and gallant-spirited, and not to bee frighted with every blast of winde, as their actions have made manifest to the world, there is not so great want of provision as is reported, for they have plenty of bread & water, with which the Souldiery are very well contented, and so long as that lasteth declare they will never desist the service or leave the Town.

The Souldiers in *Portsmouth* are much discontented, but the Seamen more, being much wrought upon by the Royall party, who have instructions from others abroad, the Sea-men must appeare, and act the designe, for which purpose about 300 came ashore, and in the midst of the Towne declare for King *Charles*: this puts the Governour and the other

of South-Sea-Caſtle to a ſtand, the Alarm is given to the Soldiery, the Sea-men ſtand ſtill till 300. were bodyed, upon whoſe advance the Sea men retreate, the Souldiers purſue, but not with violence, or offering to fire; they get the Sea-men out of the Gates which being ſhut, all was pacified: the Plot tooke not with the diſcontented Souldiery, as preſuppoſed, but the Sea men threaten a revenge.

From *Scarborough* wee are certified, that diſcontents and jealouſies of many there, have beene very great, occaſioned by ſome hint of the Governors Treachery, which was ſuſpected many wayes, 1. By turning out Capt. *Lawſon*, a faithfull honeſt man, that long ſerved in that Garriſon. 2. By countenancing all diſaffected perſons therein, and diſcountenancing the reſt. 3. By procuring a ſhip for carying away his malignant Kinſman, and other Cavaliers with him, and giving great entertainment to the Kings Party, with whom hee was very frequent. 4. By expreſſing ſome ill placed words, which tended to a deep conſtruction of his royall affections. The jealouſies are now confirmed by the Governor, Col. *Bainton* declaring, which is for the King and Prince *Charles*, his diſcontents, rather then hopes of a reward, prompts him to a deſperate adventure, having had no pay, either for himſelfe, or Souldiers for many moneths together; and though his Declaration be raſh, yet hee admits of none of the Royall party to enter; and if an overture of Indempnity, with a conſiderable ſum for himſelfe and Souldiers were made, the difference might bee compoſed in all probability.

From the *North* it is by poſt; affirmed that Lieu-

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tenant Generall *Cromwells* horse, consisting of 30. odd Troopes joyned with Major Generall *Lambert* the 27 which no sooner came neere the Major Generalls further quarters, but fell upon action with a small party; with which they resolved to try the Scots Scouts, who forc't them to retreate within 2 miles of *Appleby*, where their main guard was, the Scots advance not, nor hath the Major Generall given ground this 10. daies and upwards, no action betweene them, only the Scouts sometimes dispute it. The Major Generall encreases daily, his number consists of nine thousand, and with the foot of the Lieutenant Generall with other forces joyned with him in Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby shire, which will compleat 5000) his Army will bee very numerous, and more offensive then defensive. The Letters seized this day in two ships bound for Scotland, and brought to the Committee at Derby house, will discover much Roguery, when reported to morrow to the house; the armes are seized on, and the ships secured till further order. Lieutenant Generall *Cromwell* is to bee for certain to morrow night at Nottingham, from whence hee speedily advances after hee hath joyned with other forces of those parts. The great additionall Army of Scots Marching into England, appeare to bee no otherwise then a Regiment of 600. poore Scots that are come to take possession of Berwick, who say all is their own on this side Trent.

5 AP 58.

FINIS.